

CITY OF SAN DIEGO COUNCILMEMBER SHERRI S. LIGHTNER DISTRICT ONE

REPORT

DATE:

May 18, 2011

TO:

Natural Resources and Culture Committee

FROM:

Councilmember Sherri S. Lightner

SUBJECT:

Second Draft of Comprehensive Policy for a Sustainable Water Supply in San

Diego

At the March 2, 2011 Natural Resources and Culture Committee (NR&C) meeting, I presented the first draft of a proposed Council Policy titled "Comprehensive Policy for a Sustainable Water Supply in San Diego" (Policy). Before and after this meeting, my staff and I solicited input from a large number of stakeholders, including the following:

- Building Industry Association (BIA)
- Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA)
- California Restaurant Association (CRA)
- City of San Diego Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
- Coastal Environmental Rights Foundation (CERF)
- Community Planners Committee (CPC)
- Environmental Health Coalition (EHC)
- Equinox Center
- Food and Water Watch
- Industrial Health Association
- National Association for Industrial and Office Properties (NAIOP)
- San Diego County Apartment Association
- San Diego County Taxpayers Association
- San Diego EarthWorks
- San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce Energy and Water Committee
- Sierra Club, San Diego Chapter
- Surfrider Foundation San Diego Chapter
- Utility Consumers Action Network (UCAN)

Additionally, I presented the Policy before the Independent Rates Oversight Committee (IROC) twice and to the IROC Environmental and Technical subcommittee. IROC voted unanimously to approve the current draft of the Policy on May 16, 2011.

We also have been working very closely with the Public Utilities Department and have worked with the City Attorney's office during this process.

Substantive changes to the first draft of the policy are shown in the strikeout-underline version included in the backup material and are listed below:

1. Page 1, Purpose

Moved the statement "Reliable and inexpensive imported water sources are finite." from the "Imported Water" section to this section.

2. Page 2, Purpose

Added a statement related to the relationship between energy and water.

3. Page 3, A. General, 5

Removed language related to requiring a work program to be developed by City representatives on the County Water Authority Board of Directors.

4. Page 3, A. General, 6

Added the section of the Municipal Code related to IROC for reference.

5. Page 4, A. General, 13

Added language related to infrastructure replacement.

6. Page 4, A. General, 14

Added language related to regularly reviewing and updating the policy.

7. Page 4, C. Conservation, 1 and 2

Separated what was one paragraph into two.

Removed "Multi-class" from paragraph 1.

Changed paragraph 2 to call for *consideration* of using customer data as a possible part of residential rate structure. The Public Utilities Department is currently working to define what specific data could be used if an allocation, or "budget based" rate structure is developed for the City of San Diego.

8. Page 4, C. Conservation, 3

Added "Grant programs" to clarify that rate payer funds should not be used for economic incentive programs.

9. Page 5, C. Conservation, 5

Changed language related to supporting water exchange programs to show more general support of innovative, market-based conservation programs.

10. Page 5, D. Local and Regional Supply

Moved section "D. Local and Regional Supply" ahead of the "Importation" section to signify local and regional supplies as a priority.

11. Page 5, D. Local and Regional Supply, 5

Added number 5 to include other potable reuse treatment projects in the event of other potable reuse processes are available.

12. Page 6, D. Local and Regional Supply, 8

Added "Grant programs" to clarify that rate payer funds should not be used for incentive programs.

Removed a statement related to decentralized, small and medium treatment facilities.

13. Page 6, F. Related Local, State and Federal Laws and Policies

Added section "F" to the end of the Policy for all of the references to other state, federal and local laws and policies that were in other locations in the document.

I appreciate the Committee's time and any other suggestions it may have, and I look forward to bringing the Policy to the full City Council.

Sherri S. Lightner

Councilmember, Council District 1